

FTM



**PATENT APPLICATION**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

Atsuo KONDO et al.

Group Art Unit: 3742

Application No.: 10/581,748

Examiner: Q. VAN

Filed: June 6, 2006

Docket No.: 128342

For: PLASMA GENERATING ELECTRODE, ITS MANUFACTURING METHOD, AND  
PLASMA REACTOR

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTIONELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

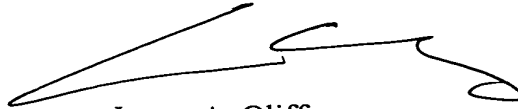
Sir:

In reply to the May 6, 2008 Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect  
Group I claims 12-18, with traverse.

It is also respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims 12-22 is  
sufficiently related that a thorough search for the subject matter of any one Group of claims  
would encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is  
respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made  
without serious burden. See MPEP §803 in which it is stated that "if the search and  
examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must  
examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims to independent or distinct inventions"  
(emphasis added). It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply in the present  
application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and duplicative  
examination by the Patent Office.

Thus, withdrawal of the Restriction Requirement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:GL/mdw

Date: June 4, 2008

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